

Informational brochures provided by the Indiana Department of Education include:

- ♦ Parent Involvement Policy
- ♦ Parents Right-To-Know About Teacher Quality
- ♦ School Improvement
- ♦ No Child Left Behind
- ♦ Supplemental Educational Services (SES)



For additional information please visit these websites:

www.nochildleftbehind.gov
www.doe.state.in.us/TitleI/welcome.html
www.ed.gov

Indiana Department of Education
Room 229, State House
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2798
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Public School Choice
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Division of Compensatory Education

Telephone: (317) 232-0540
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Public School Choice

When schools do not meet State targets for improving the achievement of all students, parents need to have better options, including the option to send their child to another school. The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) responds to that need by giving parents of children enrolled in schools that receive Title I funding and that are identified for “school improvement” the opportunity to transfer their children to a school that has not been so identified. This brochure provides questions and answers that parents might have concerning Public School Choice.

Q & A

1. When should parents be notified that their children are eligible for public school choice?

Parents should be notified by the school corporation well before the beginning of the school year or school term in which choice will be offered.

2. How must a school corporation notify parents that their children are eligible for public school choice?

A school corporation must provide an explanation of the choice option to all parents of the students enrolled in Title I schools that have been identified for school improvement, corrective action, or restructuring. The notification must be in a language that parents can understand, and an easy-to-read format. The notification must inform parents that their child is eligible to attend another public school, identify each public school that parents may select and include information on the academic achievement of the schools that the parents may select.

3. What should parents look for when they are given the option of school choice?

Parents should focus on the academic achievement results produced by the schools they are considering. The school

corporation should urge parents to consult a variety of sources for information about the schools that are available to accept transfer students. These sources include other parents, the local media, school visits, and information available on school performance report cards.

4. How much time should parents have to consider their options?

A school corporation might set different timelines for parents to make their decisions on choice. A school corporation must set a reasonable deadline by which parents must apply and ensure that the parents have sufficient time and information to make an informed decision about selecting a school. The school corporation should work with parents to ensure that they have ample information and time to take advantage of the opportunity to choose a different public school for their child.

5. If there are no schools to which students can transfer, must parents still be notified?

Yes, parents must be notified that their child's school is identified for improvement. Such notification might also inform parents of the option of receiving supplemental educational services for those who are eligible.

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